

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please add the following paragraph after line 13 on page 3:

A1 Figure 2B shows the stepwise yield when the specific compound shown in Figure 2A were used to couple nucleotides together and the specific photolysis conditions used.

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 8 through 9 with the following paragraph:

A2 Figures 1A-II show a general outline of the alternative synthesis chemistries and outlines what the general structures for "Y" could be.

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 10 through 12 with the following paragraph:

A3 Figure 2A shows specific compounds that are preferred within the general structures shown in Fig. 1.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).]

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 24-29.

Please amend Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 23. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - xiii).

1. (Amended) A compound represented by the formula M-Y, wherein:

M is a monomeric building block, a solid surface or a gel having a reactive site that is masked by Y; and

Y is a photolabile protecting group selected from the group consisting of:

X
S
B